



Urban District of Horbury


ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR
and Cleansing Superintendent

for the year

1949



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Urban District of Horbury

Chairman of the Council:
Councillor H. S. Crooke, J.P.

Vice-Chairman:
Councillor F. L. Jagger

HEALTH COMMITTEE:

Councillor H. V. Bennett (Chairman)
Councillor F. L. Jagger
Councillor F. J. Baines
Councillor E. Briggs
Councillor H. S. Crooke
Councillor E. E. Lee
Councillor G. Senior
Councillor F. Wilson, J.P.
Councillor J. Tetley
Councillor J. M. Oddy
Councillor H. Wilkinson

HEALTH AND CLEANSING DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:
William G. Evans, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:
Edwin F. Richley, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Junior Assistant:
Raymond Burfield

Town Hall,
Horbury,
Nr. Wakefield.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Rateable value of General Rate: £37,220

Sum represented by a Penny Rate: £141

Area of district: 1,280 acres

Population: 7,954

Number of inhabited houses: 2,570

Birth Rate: 12.9 per 1,000 population

Death Rate: 11.4 per 1,000 population

Infantile Death Rate: 58 per 1,000 births registered

Zymotic Death Rate: Nil

Rainfall: 24.6 inches

To the Chairman and members of the Public Health
Committee

August, 1950

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my third Annual Report.

On the whole the vital statistics represent a reasonable state of community health. 1949 is the first complete year of the working of the National Health Service Act. As far as the local authorities' services are concerned the main change has been the introduction of the Home Help Service, which has proved itself a valuable instrument of preventive medicine. As is suggested in my report, some of the changes brought about in the Hospital Service would not appear to have improved that Service as it affects this district. However, it is perhaps early to criticise and one looks forward to many important advances in the next few years.

Once again I have pleasure in acknowledging the interest and support of the Council and the co-operation of my colleagues.

I am, Sirs,

Your obedient servant,

W. G. EVANS,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

Live Births:—				M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	...		53	47	100
Illegitimate	...	...		1	2	3
				54	49	103

Birth Rate

12.9.

(Births per 1,000 of the estimated population)

Still Births

				M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	...		1	1	2
Illegitimate	...	...		—	—	—
				1	1	2

TABLE I—CAUSES OF DEATH

	0—1		—5		—15		—30		—45		—30		—75		75+		100+	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory system ..							1				1						—	—
Syphilitic diseases								1									1	
Influenza																	—	—
Poliomyelitis			1														1	—
Cancer of uterus													1				1	—
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ..											1		2	1			1	3
Cancer of Breast													1				—	—
Cancer of all other sites													4		3	1	7	1
Intra-cranial vascular lesions												1	2	1	3	5	5	7
Heart disease											5	1	4	5	5	7	14	13
Other diseases of circulatory system													1		1		2	—
Bronchitis		2		1									1	1	1		2	4
Pneumonia	1	1											2			1	3	2
Other respiratory diseases													1				1	—
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum													1				1	—
Other digestive disorders											1	1					1	1
Nephritis											1			1			1	1
Maternal Causes									1								—	1
Premature birth		1															—	1
Congenital malformation, birth injuries, infant disease	1																1	—
Road traffic, accidents						1											3	—
All other causes						1					1		2				3	3
Total	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	5	21	11	13	18	49	42

Still Birth Rate

18.1.

(Still Births per 1,000 births)

Deaths

M.	F.	Total
49	42	91

Death Rate

11.4.

(Deaths per 1,000 estimated population)

Infant Mortality

Infant Deaths:—				M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	...		2	4	6
Illegitimate	...	...		—	—	—
				2	4	6

Infant Mortality Rate

58.

(Deaths of infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births)

Maternal Deaths

There was one maternal death during the year. This took place in a hospital outside the area.

TABLE II

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN 1949

Net deaths from stated causes under one year of age=6

Cause of Death.	Under 1 wk.	1-2 wks.	2-3 wks.	3-4 wks.	Total under 1 mth.	1-3 mths.	3-6 mths.	6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.	Total under 1 yr.
Pneumonia						1		1		2
Prematurity	1				1					1
Acute Bronchitis						2				2
Intestinal Obstruction	1				1					1
Totals	2				2	3		1		6

Death Rate of Infants under one year:—

(i.e. per 1,000 live births)

Administrative County of West Riding of Yorkshire	38
Horbury Urban District	58

TABLE III
COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

	Worbury U.D.	Aggregate W.R. Urban Districts.	Aggregate W.R. Rural Districts.	W.R. Admin. County.	England & Wales
Birth Rate. (per 1,000 estimated population)	12.90	16.80	18.40	17.20	16.70
Death Rate. (all per 1,000 estimated population)					
All causes	11.40	12.50	10.80	12.10	11.70
Cancer	2.01	1.88	1.61	1.81	1.87
*Heart and Circulatory	3.65	4.36	3.70	4.19	**
Diarrhoea under 2 (per 1,000 live births)	—	3.01	3.95	3.27	3.00
†Zymotic	—	0.08	0.09	0.08	**
‡Respiratory diseases (exclud- ing Tuberculosis)	1.51	1.48	1.31	1.44	**
Respiratory, Tuberculosis ..	0.25	0.32	0.31	0.32	0.40
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05
Infant Mortality. (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)	58	37	42	38	32
Maternal Mortality. (Deaths of mothers in child- birth per 1,000 live and still- births)					
Puerperal Sepsis	—	0.15	0.13	0.15	0.22
Other maternal causes	9.52	0.60	0.90	0.68	0.76
Total	9.52	0.75	1.03	0.83	0.98

* Combined death rate from heart disease and other diseases of the circulatory system.

‡ Combined death rate from smallpox, scarlet fever, enteric fever, diphtheria, measles, whooping cough; also diarrhoea in infants under two.

† Combined death rate from bronchitis, pneumonia and other respiratory diseases, excluding tuberculosis.

TABLE IV
COMPARISON OF VITAL STATISTICS 1946-49

				Birth	Death	Infant Mortality	
Population				Rate	Rate	Deaths	Rate
1946	...	...	7,788	18.1	11.5	6	42
1947	...	...	7,851	21.1	14.9	10	60
1948	...	...	7,880	16.5	12.4	4	30
1949	...	...	7,954	12.9	11.4	6	58

A general scrutiny of the vital statistics of 1949 and the three preceding years shows a population slowly rising in number, a birth rate falling sharply after the post-war peak and a death rate at present maintaining a level below that of the birth rate, thus ensuring a natural increase of population.

The Infant Mortality is seen to be fluctuating widely as such rates will do when applied to small populations. The same applies to the maternal mortality figure which as the result of one death has soared to relatively astronomical heights.

The table of deaths from stated causes shows the usual features. Two-thirds of the 91 deaths occurred in people over the age of 60 and one-third in people over 75. The causes mainly responsible for the deaths are diseases of the heart and circulatory system (41 deaths). Cancer (16 deaths) is second. The figures are not big enough to pursue the order further.

SECTION B GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

1. Laboratory Facilities

The Medical Research Council's Public Health Laboratory is housed in the County Medical Officer's Building in Wakefield.

2. Ambulance Facilities

These are provided by the County Council in accordance with the National Health Service Act as a free service. Many people seem to have misunderstood their privileges in this respect. No one has the automatic right of a free ambulance ride whenever they feel so inclined. It is the duty of the County Council to provide the service free to certain categories of persons who need it and the County Council are the sole judge of whether they need it or not. In cases of emergency, the only practical course is to assume the need and carry out the removal. In other cases it is the duty of the County Council's officers to satisfy themselves that there is a genuine need.

3. Isolation Hospital Facilities

Horbury patients continue to be admitted to Snape-thorpe Isolation Hospital. During the year 16 cases of scarlet fever and 1 case of pneumonia were so admitted.

4. General Hospital Facilities

The general bed and staff shortage appears to continue though in some respects there have been improvements. We continue to lack the benefits of a bed bureau which would undoubtedly ease the burden of doctors and patients alike in finding appropriate accommodation.

I would like to acknowledge here the co-operation which this department has had from all the hospitals in this neighbourhood in bringing into operation the after care service in cases discharged from hospital. An efficient after care scheme is a powerful weapon in the completion of treatment and the rehabilitation of the sick. It can also be used to shorten in-patient treatment and so reduce the hospitals' waiting lists. Co-operation between hospital, local authorities and general practitioners is, of course, essential but I have no reason to doubt that this will always be forthcoming, and I look forward to important extensions of this service in the future.

5. Nursing Home

The only private nursing home in the district continues to operate, providing accommodation for midwifery cases.

6. Domiciliary Nursing

This service continues to operate as hitherto. Nurse Bate remains the nurse for the Horbury district. During the year 2,595 visits were paid to 116 cases.

7. Venereal Diseases

Treatment centres are available in all the neighbouring big towns. The nearest one to Horbury is the Clayton Hospital, Wakefield.

8. Maternity Services

Institutional

The arrangements for booking institutional accommodation remained as they were in 1948. Of the 103 births in the district, 52 took place in hospital.

Ante Natal Clinic

This is held weekly at the Congregational Church. Out of 103 births, 89 mothers attended the ante-natal clinic. This can be regarded as a satisfactory percentage and shows that the mothers of Horbury know the value of ante-natal care. It cannot be too frequently stressed that proper ante-natal care is one of the most potent factors in the promotion of health among mothers and babies.

Domiciliary Midwifery.

Fifty-one mothers had their confinements at home and of these 19 had Gas and Air Analgesia administered by the midwife.

Maternal Mortality

One mother died in childbirth in hospital.

9. Child Welfare*Clinics*

These are held weekly at the Congregational Church Hall. Dr. Alan Green is the medical officer.

The attendances during the year were:—

Children under 1 year	Children aged 1-5 years
1,754	684

During the year the staff and voluntary helpers continued their valuable work and I must again record my thanks for their help.

10. School Health Services*Medical Inspection of Schoolchildren*

There were 971 children on the registers of the four Horbury Schools at the end of the year. The following is a record of the inspections carried out during the year:—

School	No. of Sessions	No. seen	
		At Routine	At Non-Routine
Horbury Bridge	2	25	11
Horbury Council (M.) ...	3	76	65
Horbury Council (Inf.) ...	3	53	45
Horbury St. Peter's (Inf.)	3	58	19
Horbury St. Peter's (Girls)	2	33	38
Horbury St. Peter's (Boys)	2	17	41
		<hr/> 267	<hr/> 219

Classification of the nutrition of the children carried out at the time of the routine inspections gave the following results:—

	A	B	C
	(Good)	(Normal)	(Poor)
Entrants	32	90	1
Intermediates ...	12	76	1
Leavers	16	39	—
	<hr/> 60	<hr/> 205	<hr/> 2=267
	22.47%	76.78%	.75%

Results of Inspections

	Vision	Ear, Nose & Throat	Ortho- paedic	Other Cases	Total
No. of defects requiring treat- ment found at Routine Inspec- tion	19	17	9	25	70
At Re-examina- tion	15	2	—	11	28
No. of defects requiring obser- vation found at Routine Inspec- tion	37	11	6	8	62
At Re-examina- tion	36	7	—	20	63

Consultant Services

Since the Regional Hospital Boards took over the County Council's functions in this respect, it is a regrettable fact that the service in this area has deteriorated markedly. This applies particularly to Ear, Nose and Throat clinics which ceased to function over a year ago and have not yet re-started. This division has also been without an ortho-paedic clinic for several months.

It is ironical, to say the least, that having reported the defects found at medical inspections I have to add that the service for treating these defects has, with the exception of the ophthalmic service, practically disintegrated.

Cleanliness Surveys

School	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of individual children found to be infested
Horbury Bridge	81	297	5
Horbury St. Peter's (Inf.)	117	285	27
Horbury St. Peter's (Boys)	156	497	7
Horbury St. Peter's (Girls)	152	501	22
Horbury Council (Inf.) ...	150	335	15
Horbury Council (Mixed)	315	789	23

Horbury School Clinic

88 Sessions

2116 Attendances

Average attendance per session=24.

11. **Diphtheria Immunisation**

During the year 152 children received a full immunising course and 122 children received reinforcing doses.

The total number of children who have completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1949, is 768.

This represents 43.1% of the child population.

12. **Home Help Service**

This service expanded very rapidly during the year. The figures for the Division show that while 38 cases were dealt with between 5th July, 1948, and 31st December, 1948, the figure for 1949 was 168. At the same time the numbers of Home Helps employed full time and part time rose from 8 to 47.

During 1949 38 cases were dealt with in Horbury, 20 being maternity cases, 10 cases of illness and 8 aged and infirm people.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

(a) **Water Supply**

There has been no change in the supply during the year. It is purchased in bulk from the Dewsbury and Batley Joint Water Board and the Wakefield Corporation. Every house in the District has a piped supply.

The supply from all sources mentioned is quite satisfactory both in quality and in quantity and is controlled at the distribution point by bacteriological and chemical examination monthly, in addition to which your Sanitary Inspector has taken samples locally with the following results:—

Samples taken 10th January, 1949—

1. Wakefield Supply.

2 Saville Drive.

Presumptive coliform count:—None.

Coliform bacilli present in 100ml. water:—Nil.

2. Dewsbury Supply.

43 Co-operative Street.

Presumptive coliform count:—None.

Coliform bacilli present in 100ml. water:—Nil.

Samples taken 23rd May, 1949—

3. Dewsbury Supply.

9 Park Street.

Presumptive coliform count:—None.

Coliform bacilli present in 100ml. water:—Nil.

4. Wakefield Supply.

75 Gervase Road.

Presumptive coliform count:—None.

Coliform bacilli present in 100ml. water:—Nil.

Sample taken 23rd August, 1949—

5. Wakefield Supply.

F. Grint, Cluntergate (Ice Cream).

Presumptive coliform count:—None.

Coliform bacilli present in 100ml. water:—Nil.

All these samples are satisfactory according to Ministry of Health standards.

(b) Drainage and Sewerage

Apart from the Horbury Bridge Section, the system appears to be working satisfactorily.

(c) Closet accommodation

All but 24 of the District's 2,561 houses are connected to a sewer and of these three have water-carriage systems connected to cesspools. These 24 houses are on the outskirts of the district and for various reasons it is impracticable to connect them to a sewer.

(d) Housing

This continues to be the major problem confronting this and other departments of the Council. A recital of figures gives little idea of the amount of work in interviews, conferences, etc., that is put in by members of the Council and their officials in overcoming it.

The more important facts relating to housing in the district are as follows:—

There are 90 houses which, in due course, will have to be considered for demolition. Demolition Orders were obtained on two houses and the tenants re-housed and the houses demolished.

The Council built 38 new houses and four were built privately during the year.

Overcrowding

There were 7 cases outstanding at the beginning of the year. Six of these were dealt with and two new cases came to light during the year.

SECTION D
PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF NOTIFIABLE
INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Cases notified during 1949

	Under 1 yr.	1—2 yrs.	2—3 yrs.	3—4 yrs.	4—5 yrs.	5—10 yrs.	10—20 yrs.	20—35 yrs.	35—45 yrs.	45—65 yrs.	65 and over	Treated at home	Hospital	Total	Deaths
Scarlet Fever				2	2	7	6					1	16	17	
Whooping Cough ..		4	4	3	2	4				1				18	
Measles	5	19	24	16	14	18								96	
Pneumonia	1	1	1			1	2	2	3	5	1	16	1	17	5
Erysipelas							1				1			2	
Malaria								1						1	
Poliomyelitis		1												1	1

The Table shows a general decrease in notifiable infectious disease, particularly scarlet fever. It also demonstrates the age incidence of the three commonest infectious diseases. Thus it can be seen that scarlet fever is a disease primarily of school life, while whooping cough and measles attack mainly the children under five.

Tuberculosis

New cases were notified as follows:—

	M.	F.	Total
Pulmonary	1	4	5
Non-pulmonary	—	1	1
	1	5	6

The following cases were removed from the Register during the year:—

Pulmonary 1 Female (died)
1 Male (left district).

Cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year were:—

	M.	F.	Total
Pulmonary	8	10	18
Non-pulmonary	2	3	5
	10	13	23

Urban District of Horbury

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

and Cleansing Superintendent

for the year

1949

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT
TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE HORBURY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

August, 1950.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1949.

It is most encouraging to report that during this year the interest by the general public in all public health matters has increased. The days of "out of sight—out of mind" are swiftly passing. With the growing demand by public opinion for cleaner and more wholesome food, improved water and milk supplies, cleaner air, and better sanitary and housing conditions, comes the power to make these things reality. This has been particularly noticeable in food preparation premises and cafes, where the general public, by local and national campaigns, have demanded and are receiving an improved and cleaner service. New Byelaws relating to the handling of food have been adopted and the powers of the Health Department thus increased. There is, however, no room for complacency; many improvements can and should be made. It is the constant endeavour of the Public Health Department to achieve these and to advise and help the general community in all the difficult and delicate matters relating to Health and Hygiene.

Once again, a small number of photographs have been reproduced in this report to emphasize and illustrate various sections.

Throughout the year the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee have given much time and thought to this vital subject and I am sincerely grateful to them for their assistance and co-operation.

**SECTION E
SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT**

Summary of inspections made during the year

Nuisances, housing and revisits	...	...	...	1894
Butchers and food shops	...	...	...	120
Choked drains and drainage works in progress	...	...	...	128
Disinfestation	...	...	...	42
Farms	...	...	...	11
Factories and workshops	...	...	...	80
Filthy and verminous premises	...	...	...	32
Public houses	...	...	...	20
Bakehouses	...	...	...	30
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	36
Ice-cream premises	...	...	...	51
Inspections of Pigs	...	...	...	105

Milks supply:—

Samples for methylene blue test	...	...	...	3
Samples for tuberculosis test	...	...	...	3
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	28
Rats and mice infestations	...	...	...	286
Refuse disposal	...	...	...	84
Refuse collection	...	...	...	42
Salvage	...	...	...	70
Schools	...	...	...	9

Water supply:—

Samples for bacteriological examination	...	5
---	-----	---

3139

WORKS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION
OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

Choked drains	...	...	...	...	...	17
Damp walls	...	...	...	...	...	17
Defective ashbins	...	...	...	...	...	49
Rat and mice infestations	...	...	...	...	...	17
Nuisance from foul smells	...	...	...	...	...	2
Absence of water closet	...	...	...	...	...	14
Dirty houses	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective floors	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective rainwater pipes	...	...	...	...	...	3
Breaches of Food and Drugs Act, 1938	...	...	...	...	...	31
Defective doors	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bedbug and cockroach infestations	...	...	...	...	...	19
Absence of water closet drain	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective drains	...	...	...	...	...	6
Defective w.c.s	...	...	...	...	...	3
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	1
Water in cellar	...	...	...	...	...	2
Choked gullies	...	...	...	...	...	1
Absence of inspection chamber	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective eavesgutters	...	...	...	...	...	27
Breach of Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	10
Defective sinks	...	...	...	...	...	7
Defective roofs	...	...	...	...	...	25
Defective plasterworks	...	...	...	...	...	14
Defective w.c. seats	...	...	...	...	...	3
Insufficient surface drainage	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective w.c. cistern	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective sink waste pipe	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective chimney stack	...	...	...	...	...	7
Insanitary ashpit	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective windows	...	...	...	...	...	15

Defective pointing	...	...	...	...	...	3
Dirty piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective doorlock	...	...	...	...	...	1
Burst water pipe	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective ceilings	...	...	...	...	...	4
Leaking water supply cistern	...	...	...	...	...	1
Leaking gas pipes	...	...	...	...	...	1
Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	15
						<hr/> 344

The following is a list of housing defects and complaints regarding Council property received and dealt with by the Surveyor:—

Repairs to gutters	...	...	...	...	...	58
Repairs to roofs	...	...	...	...	...	69
Plastering repairs	...	...	...	...	...	92
Pointing brickwork	...	...	...	...	...	24
Repairs to firebacks and grates	...	...	...	...	...	125
Defective hot water system	...	...	...	...	...	31
Defective ball valves	...	...	...	...	...	148
Defective sink waste pipes	...	...	...	...	...	77
Defective water taps	...	...	...	...	...	38
Repairs to gas boilers	...	...	...	...	...	90
Gas leaks	...	...	...	...	...	67
Repairs to door fittings	...	...	...	...	...	114
Defective draining boards	...	...	...	...	...	56
Repairs to window frames	...	...	...	...	...	50
Sundries	...	...	...	...	...	177
Defective drains	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective stop taps	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective sinks	...	...	...	...	...	8
Defective chimney pots	...	...	...	...	...	9
Hearth tiles replaced	...	...	...	...	...	1
Clothes posts replaced	...	...	...	...	...	11
Repairs to floors	...	...	...	...	...	17
Repairs to gates and fences	...	...	...	...	...	2
Washers on taps	...	...	...	...	...	50
W.C. pedestals replaced	...	...	...	...	...	6
Wiring faults	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective plugs	...	...	...	...	...	3
Burst water pipes	...	...	...	...	...	78
Defective w.c. seats	...	...	...	...	...	6
Defective chimney stacks	...	...	...	...	...	6
Repairs to tiling	...	...	...	...	...	5
Repairs to paths	...	...	...	...	...	7
Defective cisterns	...	...	...	...	...	17
Fall pipes	...	...	...	...	...	3
						<hr/> 1465

SECTION F

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

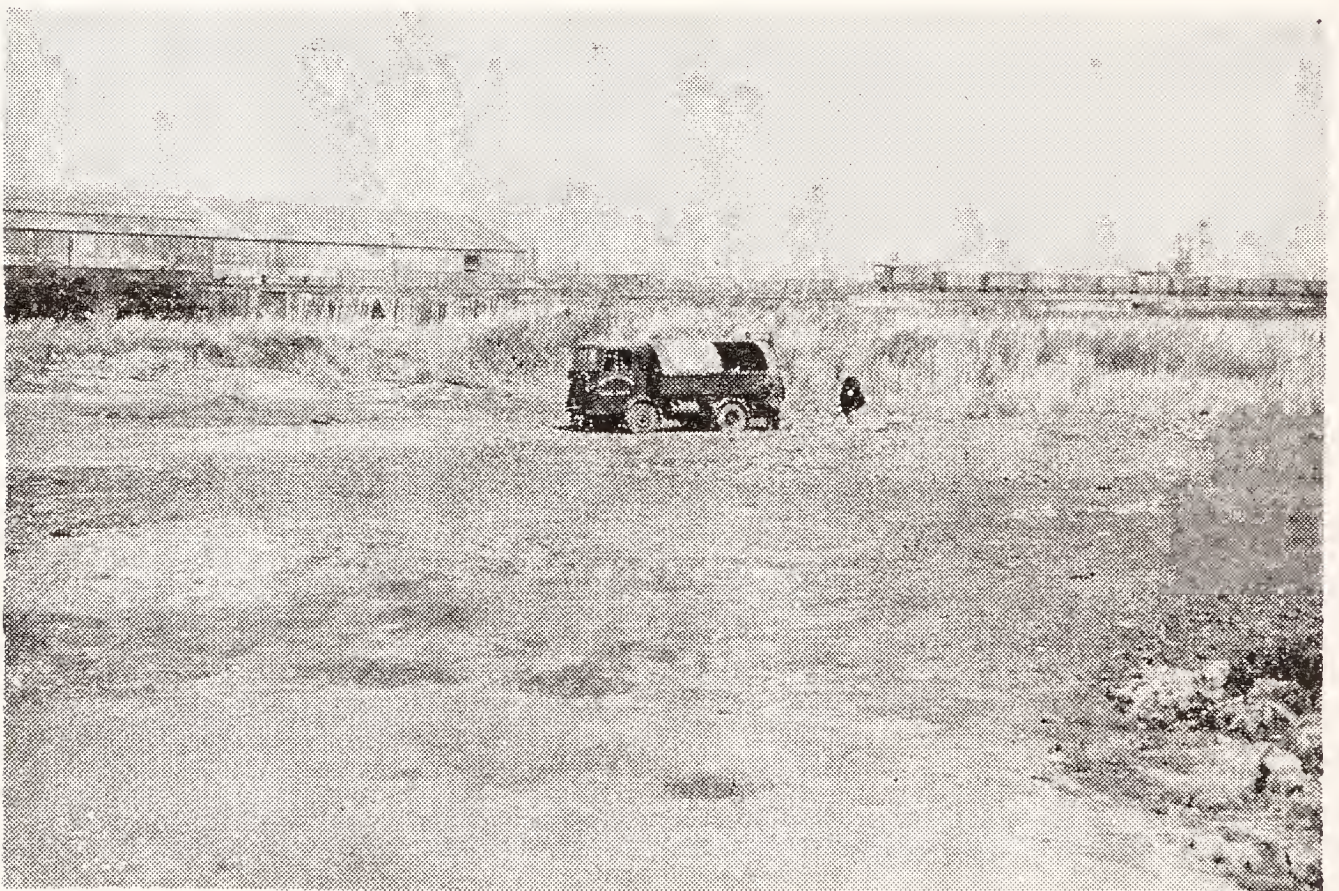
The collection and disposal of refuse is carried out by Council employees under my direction and supervision with the Council's own motor vehicles.

Two vehicles are used for this purpose, one seven cubic yard "Karrier Bantam" and one seven cubic yard "Dennis."

After Bank Holidays an additional hired vehicle is used and a weekly collection maintained. I consider that a regular collection at each house on the same day each week is a basic necessity for efficient refuse removal.

The approximate number of receptacles for which the Department is responsible for cleansing is 2,556 ashbins, 7 ashpits, 16 pail closets, 8 privies, and 9 cesspools.

The whole of the township's refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at the Sand and Gravel Tip, Horbury Junction. A small destructor is situated on this tip, and old bedding, etc., is disposed of here.



Horbury Refuse Tip — All this ground was formerly a pond

The refuse is tipped in six feet layers, and is to be finally covered with two feet of soil, thus reclaiming ground which would otherwise become a large pond owing to its close proximity to the river.

Labour difficulties are still a major problem, but the loading teams have worked with a good will and there has been no breakdown in the collection.

With the growth of the new housing estates, an increase in the refuse collection services is inevitable, but plans are being formed well in advance to deal with this problem.

The Council have recently approved a municipal ashbin replacement scheme, whereby they assumed the responsibility of providing new ashbins for house refuse. The position regarding trade refuse remains unchanged, and is still the responsibility of the occupiers. Special records have been set up and each ashbin is inspected before replacement. This scheme, which gives much greater control by the local authority and reduces the amount of work in re-visits and service of notices, has many advantages.

The ashbins provided in this district are generally in accordance with British Standard Specification 792/1947, and are:—

- 2½ cubic feet capacity
- 17 inches diameter at top
- 15 inches diameter at bottom
- 22 inches high
- 23lbs. weight
- Plain taper side
- Galvanised after made
- Both ashbin and lid embossed H.U.D.C.

A general charge is made on the rates to cover the cost of these ashbins, and it is hoped that when this fact is fully appreciated by the residents, special care will be taken to maintain the ashbins in good order by refraining from placing wet or offensive material or by burning refuse therein. Such things as these are not only a nuisance, but will considerably shorten the life of the ashbin.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL FOR THE YEAR 1949-1950

							£	s.	d.
Hired haulage	}	Transport	...	...			407	0	0
Licenses									
Insurance									
Petrol and oils									
Tools and equipment									
Repair and renewals									
Disinfectant ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	0	0
Tipping charges ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	0	0
Protective clothing	...	...	...	...	...	...	57	0	0
Cesspool emptying	...	...	...	...	...	...	45	0	0
Rent, rates, and water	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	0	0
Sundries ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	0	0
							559	0	0
Wages ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2185	0	0
							2744	0	0

WEIGHTS OF HOUSE REFUSE

Month	Ashpits	Weight			Ashbins	Weight			Total Weight		
1949		T.	C.	Q.		T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.
April	39	9	5	0	11433	219	1	0	228	6	0
May	24	6	0	0	8776	161	1	0	172	1	0
June	29	7	5	0	9059	152	3	0	159	8	0
July	45	11	5	0	10995	177	1	0	188	6	0
August ..	40	10	0	0	8591	131	8	0	141	8	0
September .	39	9	15	0	8717	149	17	0	159	12	0
October ..	46	11	5	0	11328	208	0	0	219	5	0
November .	30	7	5	0	9989	207	15	0	215	0	0
December .	33	8	5	0	7019	147	3	0	155	8	0
1950											
January ..	45	11	5	0	9834	187	10	0	198	15	0
February .	36	9	0	0	9273	180	0	0	189	0	0
March ..	41	10	5	0	9270	178	17	0	189	2	0
	447	110	15	0	114284	2104	16	0	2215	11	0

SECTION G

SALVAGE

In my last annual report I stated there was confusion in the waste paper world. Unfortunately, that confusion still exists today, if anything to a greater degree. It is only common sense that those local authorities who are suffering an unreasonable financial loss have suspended waste paper collections and are burning salvaged paper, and today these local authorities number hundreds.

Yet our national position is such that, at the present time, salvage assumes an importance akin to the war years. The Board mills **do** require more waste paper and are in fact offering a bonus scheme as an incentive to collections.

In examining the position, the following facts are outstanding: During the year the maximum controlled price per ton for mixed baled waste paper was £6 7s. 6d., but this price fell rapidly, in the case of some paper mill merchants to £3 10s. 0d. per ton. The Board Mills, however, were able to hold their price and continue to hold it at £5. In addition to these prices an increased collection allowance was received from the Board of Trade for all tonnages in excess of 25% of one ton per thousand of the population, ranging from 5/- to 15/- according to percentage. This allowance ceased on December 31st, 1949, and a circular from the Board of Trade at that time stated: "In the light of changed conditions it is clear that paper salvaging operations of local authorities will now and for the future be governed by normal supply and demand considerations, and after a review of all the circumstances, the conclusion has been reached that the continuation of the allowance after the 31st December, 1949, could not be justified." A further event was the wages increase award to all paper baling workmen.

Thus were the small, but very acceptable, amounts which were set against the general rates reduced, and in so many cases became deficits and not credits.

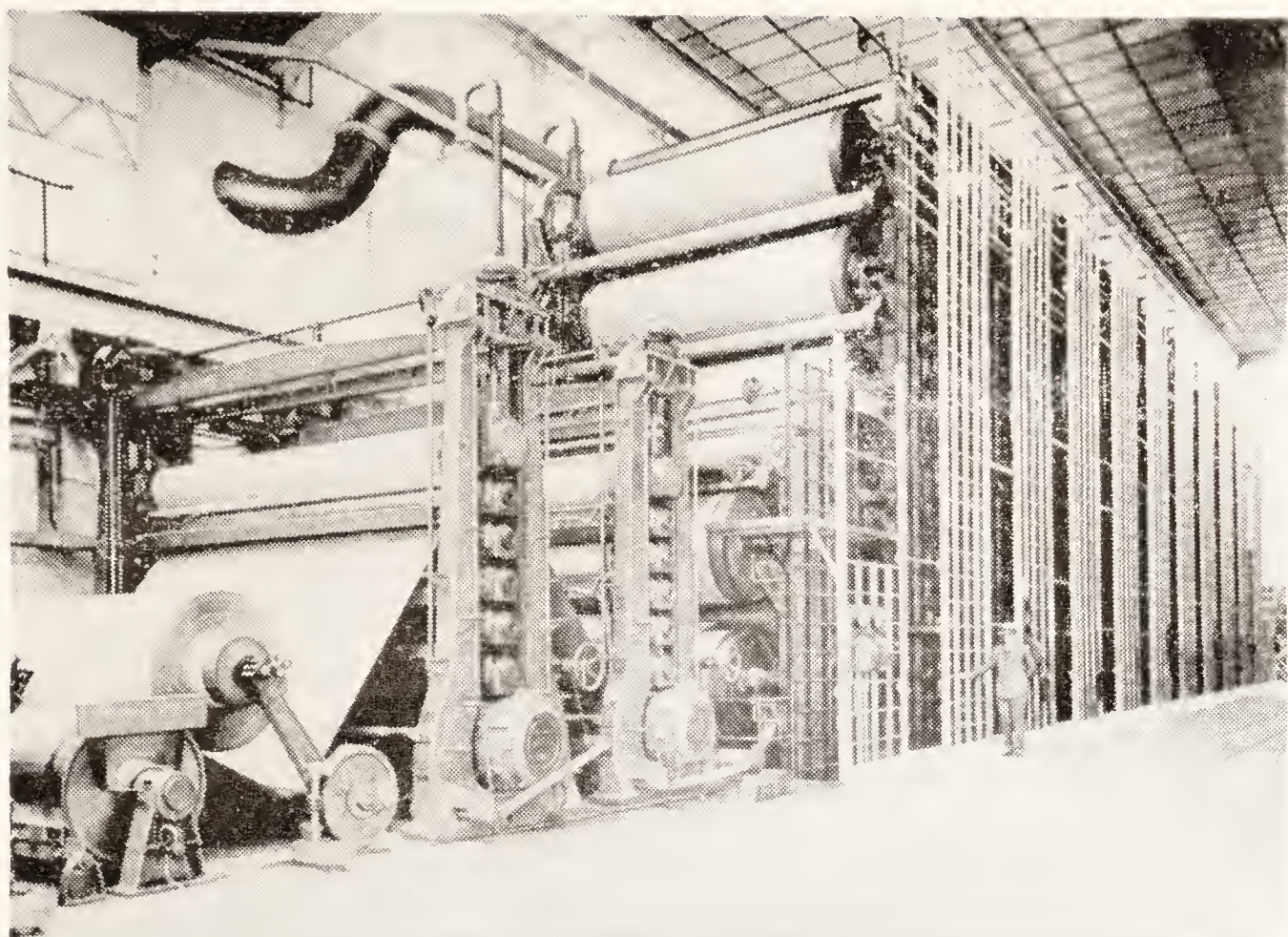
In the case of Horbury, all expenses were cleared and a profit of £59 made. Moreover, 90 tons of paper were kept out of the controlled refuse tip, and the cost of the disposal of this paper saved.

To my mind, this more than justifies a continued collection, and I feel sure that the coming twelve months will see a financial improvement. Apart from the constant demand for ceiling board in the housing drive, the usage of board in this country in 1949 was 33lbs. per head; in America it was 122lbs. per head, and as the public demand for pre-packed food increases, so will the difference in these weights diminish.

Other forms of salvage have also shown a drop in the market. In the case of kitchen waste the bonus paid by the Board of Trade ceased, but to counteract this the maximum selling price has now been raised to £2 15s. 0d. per ton as from 3rd April, 1950. This is one form of salvage where the general public has suffered the nuisance of street deposit bins for a long time, but today an ever-growing demand for the removal of these bins from the streets is apparent. Even the best kept bins can be surrounded by spillages and it would seem that dogs and cats have become experts in knocking off lids and overbalancing the bins. The general distaste for the bins is reflected in the complaints and reduced annual tonnage—in this district by approximately one-sixth. Horbury is under Ministry direction to keep these bins on the streets and without their approval cannot remove them (permission has been refused on more than one application) in spite of the fact that arrangements could be made for local pig-keepers to collect the kitchen waste privately. Every effort has been made during the year to obtain the best markets and as these have varied from week to week in the scrap metal and rag trades, up-to-date information has been essential.



Feeding waste paper into a pulping machine at the Board Mills.



This machine depends entirely on waste paper and has a manufacturing capacity of 2,000 tons per week. 1cwt. of waste paper is required every 15 seconds to keep it in production day and night.

SALVAGE INCOME

	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Waste paper	90	10	1	493	1	5
Rags		10	2	9	0	0
Kitchen waste	51	4	2	127	13	4
Scrap metal	8	10	0	19	12	8
	150	15	1	659	7	5
Plus increased collection bonus for kitchen waste and paper received from Board of Trade				52	8	9
				711	16	2

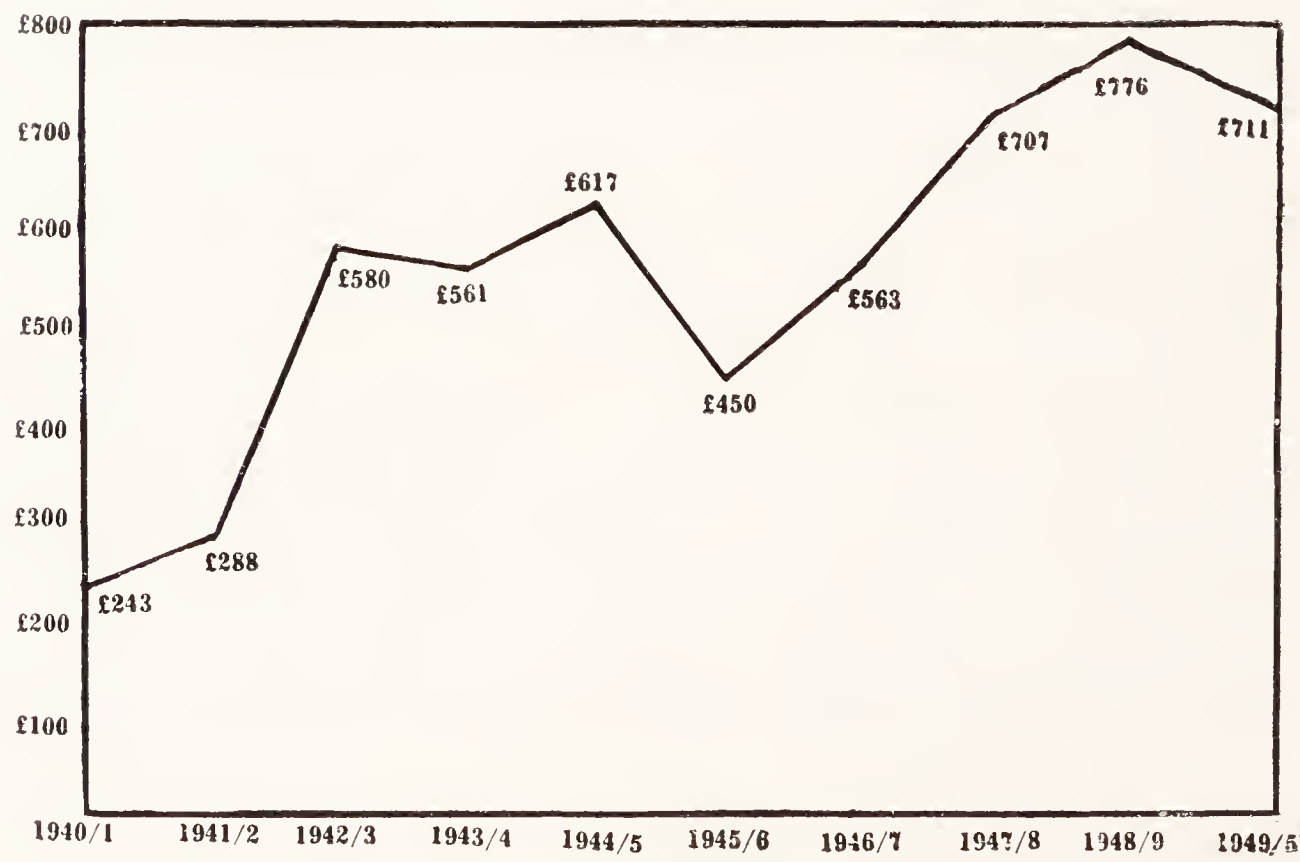
SALVAGE EXPENDITURE

	SALVAGE	EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.
Equipment	6	0	0
Kitchen waste bins	16	0	0
Transport	63	0	0
Sundries	4	0	0
			89	0	0
Wages	553	0	0
			632	0	0
		Total			

SALVAGE ANALYSIS

	Waste Paper	Kitchen Waste	Rags	Scrap Metal
	T. C. Q.	T. C. Q.	T. C. Q.	T. C. Q.
1949				
April	5 6 3	4 16 1		2 17 0
May	10 13 2	4 14 0	4 0	
June	4 16 0	3 1 0		
July	10 3 3	3 6 3	2 1	2 15 0
August	5 2 0	4 15 3		1 8 0
September	10 5 0	4 17 0		
October	4 18 2	4 13 2		
November	10 8 0	4 12 0		1 10 0
December	5 0 0	3 19 0	3 2	
1950				
January	9 16 0	4 0 0		
February	9 9 3	3 17 0		
March	4 11 0	4 12 1		
	90 10 1	51 4 2	10 2	8 10 0

Graph showing the value of salvage collected from the outbreak of war to the present day:—



SECTION H

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply

The supply has been well maintained throughout the year and the quality has been good.

The following table shows the number of cowkeepers, etc., on the register on the 30th September, 1949:—

Number of persons registered as cowkeepers	...	...	6
Number of cowsheds	...	...	11
Number of "Acredited" producers	...	...	2
Number of registered retail purveyors	...	...	15
Number of licensed retail purveyors of pasteurised milk			6
Number of licensed retail purveyors of tuberculin tested milk	...	...	5

Eleven inspections have been made up to this date, but on the 1st October, 1949, the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, and the Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, became law. The effect of these Acts and Regulations was transfer the responsibility of supervision of milk production from the Local Authority to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The control of milk retail and distribution remains with the Local Authority.

The co-operation of local authorities was naturally asked for and received when these Acts became law, but although it may be too soon to comment one wonders how efficiency and supervision can be improved when any complaint concerning local milk production must be sent to the Ministry at Harrogate. Here, to my mind, is an outstanding case where advantage could be taken of local administration.

Methylene Blue Test

Three samples of ungraded milk from retailers in the district were submitted for bacteriological examination and the Methylene Blue Time Reduction Test. All proved satisfactory.

Three samples of graded milk were taken from two designated farms and proved satisfactory.

Tests for Presence of Tubercle Bacilli

All samples were examined for the presence of tuberculosis and all proved negative.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Supplementary Licences to use the designation

"Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk

obtained in bottles for retail in the area 5

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

Supplementary Licences to use the designation “Pasteurised” in relation to milk obtained in bottles and retailed in the area	6
Supplementary Licences to use the designation “Sterilised” in relation to milk obtained in bottles and retailed in the area ...	4

During the year a complaint regarding dirty milk bottles at the Council School was investigated, and on inspection the complaint was found to be justified. The bottles in question were delivered from a dairy outside the area and the manager of the dairy was immediately contacted. He made a personal visit to the Department and also interviewed each of the dairy staff. It appeared that shortage of staff was the main trouble and every precaution is being taken to prevent a recurrence of the complaint.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Licensed slaughterhouses	2
Registered slaughterhouses	2

Owing to the Government control of slaughtering these premises were not used during the year under review.

Meat allocated and inspected at Wakefield is brought to the Co-operative Slaughterhouse in Queen Street. This centre is used as a sub-allocation point, where each butcher collects his allocation. Regular visits are made and the meat is again inspected before it is removed to the shops.

Although from time to time meat which could have been graded for manufacturing was included in the ration allocation, the quality of the meat has, on the whole, been good.

The local butchers have, during the year, made much greater use of their vans to transport the meat from Queen Street to the shops. This has been a decided improvement, although one or two butchers without vans have still used hand barrows.

In no case was it found necessary to make any seizure of diseased meat or unsound food, but the following, which upon examination were found to be unsound and unfit for human consumption, were surrendered to me and destroyed.

The total weight of unsound food was 722lbs.

211lbs. beef
 24lbs. corned beef
 1—19oz. tin carrots
 10—12oz. tins veal loaf
 1— $\frac{3}{4}$ pt. tin condensed milk
 2—14oz. tins evaporated milk
 2—16oz. tins vegetables
 1—16oz. tin tomato juice
 11lbs. farinoca
 1— $3\frac{1}{2}$ oz. tin salmon
 1—16oz. tin salmon
 1—12oz. tin meat
 2—1lb. 3oz. tins pineapple juice
 1—1lb. 4oz. tin pineapple
 1 pig's heart
 2 pig's lungs
 2 pig's kidneys
 1 pig's head
 4—2lb. 4oz. tins tomatoes
 2—15oz. tins hake
 20lbs. butter
 65 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. pork
 20 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. bacon
 214lbs. lamb
 1 sheep's pluck
 60lbs. sheep heads
 30lbs. Gorgonzola cheese
 20lbs. beast's liver

Meat and Retail Vehicles

Butchers' shops ...	...	...	...	15
Retail meat vehicles	...	...	...	5

Livestock (Restrictions on Slaughtering) Act, 1940

105 pigs were slaughtered at a licensed slaughterhouse under licence from the Food Office, and were examined for the owners.

These included pigs slaughtered from large factory canteen clubs.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

16 licences are recorded in the register; this Act is strictly observed and a humane killer is used for the slaughter of all pigs.

SECTION I

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

During the year 1949 the following samples were purchased in the district by the County Inspector, and submitted for analysis in accordance with the provisions of the above Act:—

Milk		Drugs		Other foods	
Genuine	Adulterated	Genuine	Adulterated	Genuine	Adulterated
18	0	10	0	2	0

Registration of Food Premises

Number registered for the manufacture of preserved and pressed food	...	...	7
Number registered for the sale and manufacture of ice-cream	...	...	3
Number registered for the sale of ice-cream			14

Bakehouses

Number on register	14
--------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

Thirty visits were made to these premises during the year. Co-operation from the owners has again been good, and every effort has been made to give the public a clean and wholesome food.

A greater and more varied supply of ingredients has been available, and this has been reflected in the products on sale to the public.

Fish Fryers

Number on register	11
--------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

Thirty-six visits were made to these premises, and a high standard is maintained.

It has been noticeable that in this particular section of food supply, the occupiers have been anxious to progress and improve wherever possible the standard of cleanliness and make the interior of the premises as attractive as possible. Such co-operation is indeed welcome.

Ice-Cream

Ice-cream is manufactured at three premises, at two by the Hot mix method, and at one by the Cold mix method.

Fifty-one visits were made to these premises, and eleven samples were taken.

Public Houses

Twenty visits were made to public houses and inspections were carried out which traced the supply of beer from the cellar to the consumer's glass. Special attention was paid to the provision of hot and cold water supply, draining sinks, general cleanliness and structural improvements.

Where defects were noted, the breweries were contacted and every co-operation was received.

Much has been said about the use of dirty and chipped drinking glasses, but this was not obvious during the survey, and I feel that in general a high standard of service is the rule rather than the exception.

General Food Shops

The Health Committee welcomed the issue of Model Byelaws by the Ministry of Food with respect to the handling, wrapping, and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air.

Whilst, at the time, the shortage of certain wrapping materials restricted the scope of the byelaws, they are unquestionably a step in the right direction, and the Council have now received confirmation from the Ministry of Food for the adoption of these byelaws for Horbury district.

Every food shop in the district has been issued with a copy, together with a letter urging the voluntary prohibition of smoking by food handlers, and wrapping of bread, these being two items the Ministry were unable to accept in the byelaws. Thirty-eight small general shops were inspected to investigate conditions regarding ventilation, washing and w.c. facilities.

In this type of small shop two extremes were observed. In many instances the occupiers had a personal pride in the management and a sense of pleasure in keeping the shop spick and span. In other cases, unfortunately, the occupiers were inclined to have the opinion—the business is so small that it doesn't matter.

Whether large or small they still serve the general public and it is in the retailer's own interest to carry out the simple rules of cleanliness and hygiene.

SECTION J

FACTORIES

Fifty-four mechanical factories and 28 non-mechanical factories are on the register in the district, composed of the following:—

Mechanical

Woollen and Worsted manufacturers	...	...	...	4
Mungo manufacturers	...	...	...	2
Rag manufacturers	...	...	...	1
Railway wagon, motor body builders and repairers	...	...	...	2
Oil mills	...	...	...	1
Dye works	...	...	...	1
Athletic goods manufacturers	...	...	...	1
Joiners	...	...	...	6
Printers	...	...	...	3
Engineers	...	...	...	2

Builders and contractors	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Food preparing premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Spring makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Boot repairers	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Leather curriers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Motor engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Motor cover makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wool cutters for rugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tinsmiths	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wireworkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plumbers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							—
							54
							—

Non-mechanical

Printers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Painters and decorators	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tailors	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Boot repairers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Plumbers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Milliners	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Upholsterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rag sorters	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Leather goods workers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
French polishers	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dress makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Joiners	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rug makers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							—
							28
							—

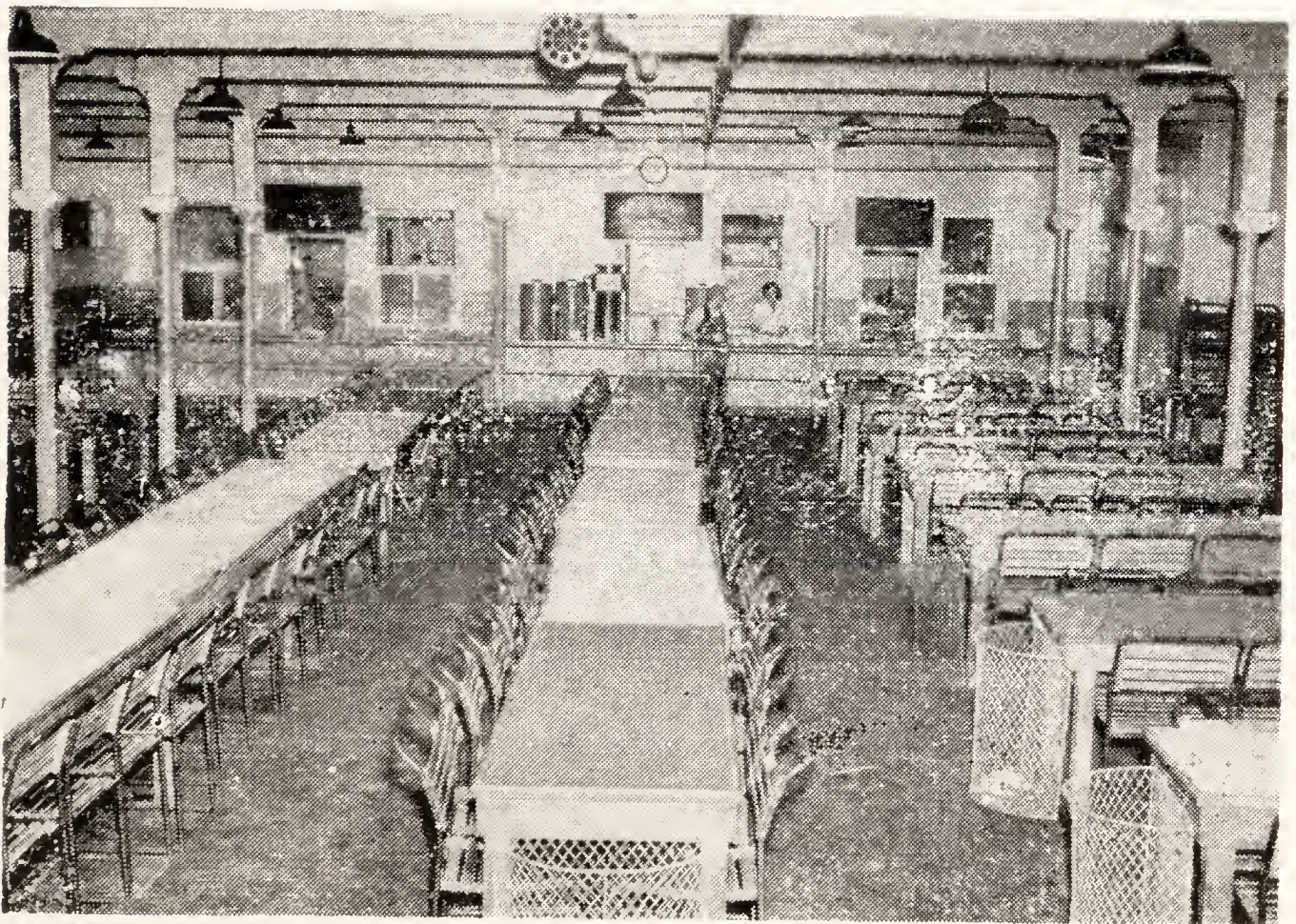
Eighty inspections have been made under the Factories Acts, 1937, and the following defects dealt with:—

Insufficient light in w.c. building	...	...	...	...	...	3
Lack of cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	6
Defective w.c. basins	...	...	...	...	...	2
Lack of ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	1

The dining rooms in the large factories have been well used during the year. From time to time advice and “clean food” posters have been given for display in the kitchens. These canteens are well organised and give an efficient service.



Food preparation in the kitchen at a local canteen.



A works dining hall in the same canteen.

Tents, Vans, and Sheds

There are two trailer caravans situated in the district, one at Spring End and one at Westfield Road.

The necessary licences are in force, and the conditions are satisfactory.

SECTION K CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Practically the whole of the sanitary conveniences in connection with the residential and business premises in the district are on the water carriage system, with the exception of the small number of 18 pail closets and 3 covered middens, which are inconvertible owing to the fact that they are situated in outlying parts of the district where sufficient sewers are not available.

The total number of water closets in use in the district is approximately 2,561.

The work of the Health Department is apparent and shows a vivid contrast by quoting from the Annual Report of 35 years ago:—

“In Horbury there are some 364 privy middens into which discharge 715 privies, many of the middens are uncovered and insanitary, whilst in a good number of instances the contents of the middens have to be wheeled out in barrows, tipped on to street surfaces in close proximity to houses, and then into carts. This process is, to say the least, most offensive.”

Even the “good old days” had many drawbacks.

Public Conveniences

There are three public conveniences for males, and one for females, in addition to those provided in the parks.

Regular inspections are made, and these conveniences are washed and brushed out every morning.

The urinal provided in Tithe Barn Street is in a very bad structural condition and I urge the building of an up-to-date convenience at this point.

SECTION L HOUSING

Horbury Statistics, 1949

Number of dwelling houses in the district	...	...	2554
Number of back-to-back houses included in above	...		18
Inspection of dwelling houses during the year—			
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...		306

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	979
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	...					6
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	24
(3) Number of dwelling houses requiring further action:—						
(a) Number considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...				90
(b) Number (excluding those in sub-head (3)(a) above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	...	0

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	202
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Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...					0
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—						
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	...	0
(b) By the Local Authority	...	...	...			0

B Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	...	3
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after services of formal notices:—						
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	...	3
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners						0

C	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for human habitation	2
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	2
(3)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	2
D	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms, the Closing Orders of which were determined, the tenement having been rendered fit	0
4. Housing Act, 1936—Part 4—Overcrowding.		
(A)	(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	7
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein	7
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	34
(B)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	2
(C)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	6
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	24

New Houses

Number of new houses provided during the year:—

By the Local Authority:—

Permanent type	38
Temporary type	0
By Private Enterprise	4

Remarks

In addition, 86 housing applications were investigated, a visit being made to the premises in each case.

The untiring energy with which the Housing Chairman has attacked this urgent and human problem is now showing fruit. The problems have been and are many, bringing with them disappointments and a sense of frustration. Nevertheless, progress is being made, and with the rapid building of the Airey Urban type houses, the future is much brighter than during 1948.

During 1949, a total of thirty-eight houses was erected. Up to the time of writing this report in 1950, 36 houses have been erected, and it is anticipated that a total of sixty houses will be completed by the end of the year, making a total of one hundred and ten houses on the Manor Fields site.

The Airey Urban type house is proving very popular, is pleasing to the eye, and the tenants have expressed great satisfaction. The Housing Committee are at present investigating the possibility of providing further types of houses such as the two bedroom type, and flats.



Occupied Airey Urban House on the Manor Fields Estate.

Not least in the housing problem is the letting of houses. A small sub-committee deals with this, and many hours are spent in discussing and examining applications. Each application is investigated by the Health Department, the facts as stated are checked, and all information is recorded on a special form which is attached to the application.

Looming large in the future of building is the financial aspect and the greatest use of transfer of tenants able to pay the larger rentals has been made during the year.

The question of clearing insanitary houses has not been forgotten and will play an increasingly greater part as the initial re-housing is overcome.

The following table shows the up-to-date position of the housing application registers:—

Reg. No.	No. of applications at 22.9.49.	No. of applications at 22.8.50.
Reg. No.	No. of applications at 22.9.49.	No. of applications at 22.8.50.
1. Overcrowding numerical ...	6	12
2. Overcrowding sexual ...	57	13
3. Young persons in lodgings	172	183
4. Lodging in Horbury—general ...	7	7
4A. Aged persons for bungalows and two-bedroomed type ...	42	32
5. Applications from persons residing outside the district and employed in Horbury ...	155	161
6. Applications from persons residing outside the district and employed outside the district ...	76	101
7. Applications in general ...	282	255
	<hr/> 797 <hr/>	<hr/> 764 <hr/>

SECTION M

PETROLEUM ACTS

There are 24 premises in the Urban District licensed either for the storage of petroleum spirit or mixtures in accordance with the provisions of the Petroleum Consolidation Act, 1928, viz: 22 for the storage of petroleum spirit, and 2 for the storage of cellulose paint.

Twenty of the licensed premises store the spirit in underground steel tanks fitted with pumps, while on the remaining premises the spirit or mixtures are kept in steel drums stored in specially constructed fire-proof above-ground stores. The total number of gallons of petroleum involved is 18,050.

Canal Boats

In accordance with Part 10 of the Public Health Act, 1936, I herewith submit my report on the administration of the said Act and Regulations for the year 1949.

No canal boat is registered in the Urban District, the part of the canal passing through the district being only a few hundred yards and situated at the extreme boundary of our area. During periodical visits to the canal banks, only day boats were seen, i.e., boats that are not used as dwellings which carry cargoes of coal, etc., only short distances. The number of boats passing through the district has not increased.

Inspection is a difficult matter as the boats do not stop on our portion of the canal for the discharge of cargoes or other purposes.

SECTION N PESTOLOGY

Nineteen complaints were received concerning infestations of houses with bed-bugs, cockroaches, etc. In one or two cases it was necessary to remove kitchen ranges and hearths in order to destroy cockroach nests. One case of body lice was dealt with, all the clothing, in addition to the house, being sprayed.

Various treatments were carried out, including the use of D.D.T. (dichloro-dephenyl-trichloroethem) 5 per cent spray, Neocid Dust, and Gammexane smoke generators.

Disinfection of Premises

The disinfection of all premises after cases of infectious disease is carried out after the removal of the patients to the Isolation Hospital or after recovery if nursed at home, the method used being with Formaldehyde vapour.

Premises are also disinfected after deaths from other causes upon written request being made.

Number of houses disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Number of houses disinfected after death from other diseases or causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

SECTION O

RATS AND MICE

The number of individual complaints received was 17-14, concerning rats, and three concerning mice. In all cases the premises were visited and action taken.

A 10% test treatment was carried out on the Council's sewers. Twenty-one manholes were baited with sausage rusk on two consecutive days. The take was very small and only isolated infestations were found.

The sewage works were also test baited and a number of takes recorded. Further baits containing zinc-phosphide were laid, and the infestation cleared.

Private house infestations occurred mainly where poultry is kept, and this type of infestation was found difficult to control owing to the danger of using poisons and the size of the areas involved.

SECTION P

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

In December, 1949, a research station was sited in Horbury to cover the districts of Ossett Borough, Wakefield Rural and Horbury Urban District. This investigation is under the central control of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and is operated locally through the County Council. The Horbury Urban District Council Health Department carried out the actual setting up of the instruments and running of the station.

The object of the investigation is to obtain exact information about the nature and extent of atmospheric pollution.

Effective action to reduce pollution in the atmosphere must be based on reliable knowledge of its nature and extent, and the success of the investigation depends on the proper use of standard methods and instruments which have been developed for the purpose of making observations of atmospheric pollution.

At Carr Lodge Park a deposit gauge has been assembled which collects the solid and liquid material, including rain, which falls within the 12 inch diameter circle of the glass collecting bowl and is collected in a large glass bottle.

A lead-peroxide apparatus is also sited in the Park. Here sulphur deposits are recorded on a porcelain cylinder coated with a mixture of lead-peroxide and gum tragacanth.

Recordings are taken monthly from both these instruments and submitted to the Public Analyst at Bradford for analysis.



The Cause—Smoke from Factory and Railway darken this summer day.



The Effect—Disfigurement and deterioration of Public Buildings.

A rainwater gauge in the Park is recorded daily.

At the Sewage Works, Horbury Junction, a smoke filter is installed. A small electric motor continuously draws a measured quantity of air through filter pads. These are replaced each day and are compared with a stain shade card.

Atmospheric pollution is too often taken for granted in industrial areas. It can and should be reduced, especially when one remembers the enormous cost in loss of heat for power, destruction to buildings, additional work of washing to housewives, and other nuisances caused by the deposit of grit and unconsumed fuel.

PERSONAL

In conclusion, I wish to accord my thanks to my assistant, Mr. R. Burfield, for the conscientious and loyal manner in which he has carried out the duties assigned to him.

My thanks are also due to the Foreman and members of the outside staff for their loyal work during the year.

I am, Sirs,

Your obedient servant,

E. F. RICHLEY,

Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.

